

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method for enhancing LAK activity which comprises administering to a mammal a therapeutically effective amount of LAK activity enhancer containing an extract of *Lentinus edodes* mycelium, which is prepared by:

preparing a suspension ~~solution~~ by crushing and delignifying a solid medium containing *Lentinus edodes* mycelia in the presence of water and one or more of additive enzymes(s) selected from the group consisting of cellulase, protease and glucosidase, wherein said solid medium is based on bagasse and defatted rice bran; and

raising the temperature of said suspension to 80-100°C to inactivate the enzyme(s).

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein said LAK activity enhancer acts on lymphocytes derived from peripheral blood.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein said LAK activity enhancer contains an extract of *Lentinus*

edodes mycelium at a concentration of 1 μg or more per 10^6 lymphocytes.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein said LAK activity enhancer further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein said LAK activity enhancer is orally administered.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein said LAK activity enhancer is in the form of a food, drink or feed.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein said LAK activity enhancer is administered by injection or a percutaneous route.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for treating tumor and/or cancer by enhancing LAK activity, which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a LAK activity enhancer containing an extract of *Lentinus edodes* mycelium that has been

extracted from a solid medium comprising bagasse and defatted rice bran ~~as a base~~ which contains *Lentinus edodes* mycelia and which is obtainable by the following steps:

delignifying the solid medium;

adding water and one or more enzymes selected from the group consisting of cellulase, protease and glucosidase to the delignified solid medium;

crushing and grinding said delignified solid medium in the presence of said enzyme(s); and

inactivating the enzyme(s); ~~and~~

~~filtering the resulting suspension.~~

20. (cancelled)